

twelve page magazine. Success to Canadian literature, say we. *The Canadian Sportsman and Naturalist* has had to work its way without Government pap; the "Scientist" may have had hard work to place itself in its present position, but such success may be attributed to positive friendship towards a good cause. Poor Provancher, the Editor of "*Le Naturaliste Canadien*" who received Government aid for fourteen years past, now says:—"Mort ressuscité, et remort, comme aurait dit un célèbre maire d'une commune de France, nous ne reparaissons aujourd'hui devant nos lecteurs, que pour leur adresser nos adieux." Poor old man, he deserved a better fate. Canadian Natural History it appears is not appreciated as it should be by the Government of Quebec.—C.

AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION.

The following Canadians are members of the American Ornithologists' Union lately formed in New York:—Regular members: Mr. Montague Chamberlain, of St. John, N.B.; Mr. W. E. Saunders, of London, Ont., and Mr. Mellwraith, of Hamilton, Ont., who are also among the "founders" of the Union; Associate members:—Mr. Brodie, Toronto; Mr. Boardman, New Brunswick; Mr. William Couper, Editor of *The Canadian Sportsman and Naturalist*, Montreal; Dr. Gilpin, Halifax; Prof. Macoun, Ottawa; Mr. J. M. Lemoine, Quebec; Mr. Morden, Hyde Park, Ont., and Mr. W. L. Scott, Ottawa. The associate members have all the privileges of regular members except that of voting.

A GOOD SUGGESTION.

MR. EDITOR—Taking a great interest in the columns of the *Canadian Sportsman and Naturalist*, I thought it would not be out of place to make a few brief notes on the study of Natural History for the young. I notice that the majority of the institutions in Canada which embrace this delightful science are composed mainly of adults who are interested in discussing problems too deep for the young mind; and I also notice that our American Cousins are ahead of us in this respect. Why should it be thus? Have we not an Association in the Dominion that would be willing to

devote a little of its time and means to instil in our boys and girls a love for Natural History, and shall we allow our friends over the line to do it alone? Until very recently the American people were on a par with us, but a gentleman in Lenox, Mass., came forward and proposed to organize an American Agassiz Association (called after Prof. Louis Agassiz, who was for years professor in Harvard College) in connection with the St. Nicholas Monthly Magazine, to be devoted to boys and girls, which was accordingly done, and from the latest report I learn that it has 525 branches, and 5970 members; and it is really astonishing the interesting observations that are made by even the youngest of its members. I might mention that branches have been formed in Montreal, Toronto, Ont., and Sydney, C.B., all of which are in a flourishing condition, but without the assistance of older organizations they cannot expect to fulfil their mission. Those advanced in years know that they must be parted from their work very soon and perhaps leave it unfinished: the question here arises, who will finish it? I can easily answer no person if the young of to-day are not trained to do it. I wish not only to call the attention of scientists to this very important subject as I think all should be interested alike, fathers, mothers, teachers and even the Council of Education, because I think it is a matter of the greatest importance to the Dominion. Hoping Mr. Editor that the preceding notes may be read by the right authorities and that a reform may take place among some of our most influential institutions, and that they may organize clubs all over the country for the benefit of our young scientists and others that would study this branch, only for the difficulties it exhibits, is the most sincere wish of one of the oldest patrons to your journal, which cannot be praised too highly for the manner in which it presents to the people of Canada and the United States original observations and research on the Natural History of the country, so that even the youngest of its readers may read and understand.

Yours, &c.,

NATURALIST

Montreal, Oct. 1883.

AN ICTHYOLOGICAL QUESTION.

Can the salmon (*Salmo salar*) live and propagate in bodies of fresh water which have no communication with the sea?

This question is now agitating the minds of